

Colour above as in *S. seraie*. Underparts bright clear orange-rufous."

- (4) *Sciurus rubidiventris*.—Size and general appearance above and below as in *S. notatus* from Borneo, but red of underparts brighter and cheeks and chin distinctly less fulvous than surrounding parts. Skull with broader, deeper brain-case than in Bornean animal.
- (5) *Sciurus lautensis*.—Pulo Laut, North Natunas. "Size slightly less than that of *S. rubidiventris* and colour conspicuously pallid. Upper parts as in *S. lutescens*; lower parts nearly as in *S. seraie*, but rather less dull; pale side-stripe much less yellow than belly. Skull as in *S. rubidiventris*."

LVI.—On Two new Species of Squirrels from the East Indies. By J. L. BONHOTE, B.A.

WHILE working at the squirrels in the National Collection I have come across two specimens each of which seems to belong to a hitherto undescribed species. The first was collected at Klong Morn, Siam, by Mr. S. S. Flower, and I propose for it the name

Sciurus Floweri, sp. n.

General colour above greyish brown, rather more rufous along the middle of the back, the colour being most intense on the head and snout. Each hair is dark grey at its base, having a tip of rufous or pale ashy according to its position on the body, and also one or two annulations of a similar colour. These annulations are darkest along the middle line, lighter at the sides, and on the feet and limbs the colour is very pale. The ears and the parts immediately surrounding the mouth are deep rufous. The underparts and inner sides of the limbs are pure white, interspersed here and there with a few black and chestnut hairs, but not in sufficient numbers to in any way influence the general appearance, which is pure white. The white extends slightly on the cheeks and there is a tendency to a white ring round the eye. The tail is about equal in length to the body and moderately bushy; the hairs are jet-black, annulated with fulvous, and ending in a fulvous tip.

The skull in its general shape is rather short and stout; the rostrum tapering and short. The auditory bullae are moderately long and laterally flattened. It most nearly

resembles the skull of *Sc. Finlaysoni*, but is much smaller; the rostrum is narrower and the brain-case rather rounder and broader.

Dimensions (in flesh):—Head and body 190 millim.; tail 170; hind foot 42; ear 18.

Skull: tip of nasals to occipital ridge 44; hensenion to hinder margin of palate 19; zygomatic breadth 28; breadth of skull immediately behind roots of zygoma 23; breadth at postorbital constriction 17; length of nasals 13; greatest breadth of nasals, ant. 7, post. 4; length of tooth-series 10.

Hab. Klong Morn, near Bankok, Siam.

Type B.M. 99. 2. 7. 1, ♀ ad. 13th August, 1898. Collected by Mr. S. S. Flower.

The affinities of this species are not very clear. It does not resemble any of the hitherto described forms. The skull seems to approach that of *S. Finlaysoni* more closely perhaps than that of other species, while from the general external appearance it appears to be more closely related to *S. erythreus*. Further material is, however, necessary before pronouncing a definite opinion.

The other species comes from Java, and for it I propose the name

Sciurus Andrewsii, sp. n.

General colour of the upper parts, including the top of the head and outer sides of the limbs, black, profusely grizzled with fulvous (buff-yellow, Ridg.*). Each hair is very dark grey at the base, shading to black at the tip, having several fulvous annulations, which greatly predominate over the darker colour. The cheeks and face are of a very pale grizzled fulvous, each hair having a dark base and a fulvous tip; on the chin and underside of the neck the fulvous tip becomes gradually lighter, until its colour is pale greyish white. This colour extends over the underparts, inner sides of the limbs, and surface of the feet. There is a fair-sized patch of pale orange (orange-buff, Ridg.) at the base of each limb. At the base of the hind limbs these patches join in the middle line and spread backwards to the root of the tail. There is a very short but distinct stripe of pale buff (buff-yellow, Ridg.) running along either side between the limbs, and this is succeeded below by a still shorter stripe the colour of the back. The ears are precisely similar in colour to the back. The tail is short, bushy, and distichous; in colour it resembles

* Ridgway, 'Nomenclature of Colours.'

the back, except that the annulations are broader; the under-side is suffused with yellowish, the tip is black.

The skull is very long and narrow, and although undoubtedly that of a true *Sciurus*, in its restricted sense*, it shows considerable resemblance to the skull of a *Funambulus*.

In size it is nearly equal to that of *Funambulus Berdmorei*. The nasals are intermediate, and while being flattened as in *Sciurus*, in length and proportions they resemble those of a *Funambulus*. The interorbital region and anterior end of the brain-case is bold, swollen, and rather broad in proportion to the general build of the skull. The postorbital processes are of moderate length and jut outwards more than in *F. Berdmorei*. The zygomata are moderately straight and do not jut out, especially anteriorly, so much as is usually the case in *Sciurus*. The brain-case, which reaches its maximum height at the level of the postorbital processes, falls away rapidly behind. The teeth are of the ordinary Sciurine form and the auditory bullæ rather small.

Dimensions (from flesh):—Head and body 178 millim.; tail 172; hind foot 40.

Skull: greatest length 50; basal length 38; palatal length 20·5; zygomatic breadth 27; interorbital breadth 15·5; length of nasals 15; breadth of nasals, ant. 6·7, post. 4.

Hab. Tjigombong, Java.

Type B.M. 99. 8. 6. 49. Tjigombong, Java, 28th June, 1897. Collected by Mr. C. W. Andrews.

The skull of this species is so distinct as to prevent any confusion with the existing species. Its nearest ally is most probably *S. notatus*, but its grey feet, the colour of the under-parts, and the patches of colour at the base of the limbs render its identification a matter of no difficulty.

LVII.—*Description of a new Hexactinellid Sponge from South Africa.* By R. KIRKPATRICK, Assistant in the British Museum (Natural History).

[Plate VIII.]

THE two specimens described below, which represent a new species of the Rossellid genus *Rhabdocalypus*, were sent to the Museum by Dr. J. D. F. Gilchrist, of the Department of Agriculture, Cape Town, who obtained them by dredging

* Thos. P. Z. S. 1897, p. 933.